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Patterson Observes Tax Freedom Day

Lansing, Mich. – April 17, 2003 is Michigan Tax Freedom Day, observed Senator Bruce Patterson, R – Canton.

“As the author of the last tax cut signed into law by former Governor John Engler and an advocate for less taxation, I have continually taken a stance against unnecessary and burdensome taxes placed on our Michigan taxpayers,” Patterson said. “Government must operate in an efficient fashion, especially in these difficult economic times.”

Tax Freedom Day represents when taxpayers are no longer working to pay taxes. In the year 2000 Michigan celebrated Tax Freedom Day on April 27, 2000. This year Michigan celebrates Tax Freedom Day 10 days earlier and two days before the nation.

“I am pleased to know that Michigan taxpayers are paying fewer taxes than three years ago and that we are ahead of the nation. However, we must continue to lower the number of days Michigan taxpayers are a slave to government,” Patterson said.

“Tax Freedom Day is an easy way for Michigan taxpayers to gage their overall taxation, a task that can be quite daunting due to ‘hidden’ taxes and fees that are often buried in the cost of living. This day is a stark reminder of our actual take home pay, as well as the burdensome taxes put on Michigan families.”

Tax Freedom Day illustrates the share of the nation’s income that goes to pay federal, state, and local taxes. It assumes that income is earned evenly throughout the year and that individuals initially devote all of their earnings to paying their taxes. The day that Michigan taxpayers are free to spend their income on other goods and services is Tax Freedom Day.

The nation will celebrate Tax Freedom Day on April 19, 2003.